Abstract of the Disclosure

   A system is provided that uses identity-based
encryption (IBE) to allow a sender to securely convey
information in a message to a recipient over a
communications network. IBE public key information may
be used to encrypt messages and corresponding IBE
private key information may be used to decrypt messages.
The IBE private keys may be provided to message
recipients by an IBE private key generator. The IBE
private key generator and the recipients who obtain
their IBE private keys from that generator form a
district. District policy information may be provided
by the IBE private key generator that specifies which
encryption and communications protocols are used by the
district. The district policy information may also
specify which authentication protocols are used by the
district and may set forth how content-based protocols
are implemented. This information may be used by
senders in sending messages to recipients.